THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). A concept paper for units under Ministry of Industry is under preparation.

[Translation]

Policy of Indeginous Industries

5793. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the present policy of the Government to promote indeginous industries;

(b) whether under this policy the indeginous industries are competent to compete with the industries set up by multinational companies; and

(c) the facilities available to indeginous industries *vis-a-vis* multinational companies ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Under the new economic reforms, the industrial policy of the Government is to build on the gains already made, correct the distortions or weaknesses that may have crept in, maintain a sustained growth in productivity and grainful employment, attain international competitiveness and encourage all sectors of industries to grow and improve on their past performance.

(c) Various measures have been taken to provide to the Indian companies a level playing field *vis-a-vis* foreign companies. Some of the measures taken by the Government, *inter-alia,* include reduction in excise duties, levy of countervailing duty wherever required, reduction in corporate tax, etc.

[English]

Transport Subsidy to Industries in Assam

5794. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the transport subsidy has not been sanctioned to the industrial units located in the State of Assam has created a negative condition for industrial growth; and

(b) the total amount of transports subsidy payable by Union Government till date and the steps being taken to release this amount ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Transport Subsidy to the tune of approximately Rs. 70.00 lakhs is payable by the Union Government by way of re-imbursement to the State Government of Assam. This is pending for want of additional information/clarification from the State Government and will be released on receipt of requisite information.

Export Turnover of SSI and NSIC

5795. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the total export turnover of small scale industrial units was Rs. 24,150 crores and National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. was Rs. 13.21 crores during the year 1993-94;

(b) if so, the reasons for less export turnover of National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.; and

(c) the steps taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The direct export from small scale sector in 1993-94 was Rs. 25307.09 crores. National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. had an export turnover of Rs. 13.21 crores.

(b) and (c). NSIC's aim is to develop small scale industries to enter into export market, and induct the units by providing them the initial support for entering into business contacts with buyers and other agencies. Once the units are established and have the linkages and knowledge to export, they start exporting directly and their turnover is not included in NSIC's exports. In place of the outgoing units new units are inducted. The role of NSIC is developmental nature. The corporation is providing continuous and constant support to the SSI units in exporting their products all over the world either through them of directly with the support and guidance of NSIC. The Corporation has adopted a Single Window Assistance approach to boost export of projects and products from the SSI sector.

[Translation]

Class IV Employees

5796. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether class IV employees working in many Undertakings are paying Income Tax;

(b) if so, whether the pay scales differ in Undertakings, Banks, Ministries and many other public institutes due to which there is resentment amongst it. Government employees getting less pay resulting in discouragement; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to bring parity in the pay scales ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Income-tax is payable by a person if his total income of the previous year from all the sources (including salary) exceeds the maximum amount which is not chargeable to income-tax. At present, the limit of total income not chargeable to income tax in the case of an 'Individual' assessee is Rs. 40,000/-. It is not necessary for a salaried assessee to mention in the return of income the class (i.e. I, II, III or IV) to which the employee belongs.

(b) The present pay structure of the Central Government employees is based on the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission as accepted by the Government with certain improvements. This Commission also considered the demand of the employees for parity in the wages of the Central Government employees *vis-a-vis* employees of the public undertakings. Prima facie the Commission observed that the job contents of even a Peon/Messenger in the

Central Government may not be similar in all respects with that in the public sector undertakings for variety of reasons. The 4th Pay Commission further observed that the Central Government is a vast and complex organisation. The pay structure for the employees of such an organisation cannot be based on a simple comparison of pay scales of posts at the lowest level in the Public Sector Undertakings. Accordingly, the pay structure and conditions of service of the Central Government employees have to be determined on their own merits.

(c) In view of (b) does not arise.

Scheduled Tribes in Public Undertakings

5797. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings in the country and the number of employees working in them;

(b) the number of scheduled tribes amongst them;

(c) the number of posts reserved for scheduled tribes lying vacant; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to fill up the same ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). In all, there are 245 Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in the country. As per information available from 228 PSUs, as on 1.1.95, out of 20,46,090 employees, 1,61,023 belong to S.T.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) All Public Sector Undertakings have been advised to assess the backlog vacancies reserved for SC & ST and fill up these vacancies through Special Recruitment Drive by 31.3.97.

[English]

Liquidity Problems Faced by SSU

5798. SHRI NANDKUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the small scale units in the country are facing liquidity problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps poposed to be taken by the Government to help small scale units in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Credit outstanding to small scale units from Public Sector Banks has increased from Rs. 25,843 crores at the end of March, 1995 to Rs. 29,482 crores at the end of March, 1996. The share of small scale credit as a percentage of net bank credit has also increased from 15.29% at the end of March, 1995 to 15.99% at the end of March, 1996. In addition to credit from Public Sector Banks, Small Industries Development Bank of India has given direct assistance of Rs. 2468 crores in 1995-96 to small scale units.

(c) Does not arise.

Participation in Automobile Fair in Frankfurt

5799. SHRI P. C. CHACKO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India propose to participate in the Frankfurt Automobile Fair in September, 1996;

(b) if so, the details of items proposed to be exhibited;

(c) whether adequate publicity have been given by the Engineering Export Promotion Council and the Automotive Manufacturing Association; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the items to be exhibited by Companies participating in the fair are Automotive lighting and components, Automotive rubber components, sheet metal parts, Hydraulic engine and transmission mountings, Suspension accessories, Automotive halogen lamps, Electrical components, Leaf Springs, Forgings, Seals, and gas setc, Cylinder liners, Trailer parts and Rear axle shafts.

(c) Yes, Sir. Adequate publicity has been given by the Engineering Export Promotion Council and the Automotive Component Manufacturers Association in India and abroad. In addition, ITPO who are also participating in the Fair, have also organised publicity.

(d) The Publicity measures undertaken by Engineering Export Promotion Council and Automotive Component Manufacturers Association and India Trade Promotion Organisation are as under :

EEPC

— Mailing campaign has been done to major wholesale and distribution associations in all the EU countries.

— Invitation letters have been sent to major buyers and OEMs in Germany.

— A leaflet highlighting the following has been brought out for distribution at the EEPC's Information Booth :

(a) Highlights of Indian Automotive Industry